

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

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John V. Hanley, Registration No. 38,171



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Stephen D. Ainsworth, et al.

§ Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: 09/894,984

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§ Art Unit: 3738

Conf. No. 3805

§

§ Docket No.: ACS-55940

Filed: June 28, 2001

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§ Date: December 19, 2001

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL**  
**UNDER 37 § 1.97(b)(3)**

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Washington, DC 20231-9998

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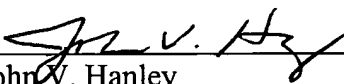
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), Applicants submit an Information Disclosure Statement including form PTO-FB-A820 and a copy of the references listed therein in order to inform the Examiner of art which may be material to patentability of the invention.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits, no fee has been enclosed. However if a fee is due, please charge our deposit account no. 06-2425. A duplicate of this statement is enclosed.

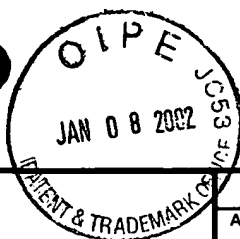
Respectfully submitted,  
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[224610.1]



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

### Complete if Known

Sheet	1	of	2	Application Number	09/894,984
				Filing Date	June 28, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Ainsworth
				Group Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	ACS-55940

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document No.		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code (if Known)			
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		5,104,404		Wolff	04-14-92	
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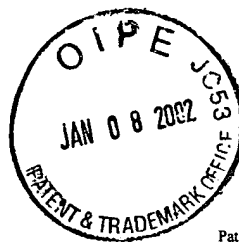
### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Office	Number	Kind Code (if Known)				
			DE 297 08 879 U1		Jomed Implantate	07-97		
			DE 299 04 817		AMG Handelsgesellschaft	05-99		
			EPA 0 888 757 A1		Corotec Medizintechnik	01-99		

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)  
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/894,984
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				First Named Inventor	Ainsworth
				Group Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	40 ACS-55940

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		Office	Number	Kind Code (if Known)				
			WO 97/25937			07-97		
			WO 98/22159			11-97		
			WO 99/17680			04-99		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T*

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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